

IN JUDICIAL FIGHT

Desperate Battle Before House Committee Tonight.

Belief That Members Will Vote to Kill the Bill.

LOBBY HAS BEEN BUSY HERE

District Judges From All Parts of State in Topeka.

Substitute Measure May Be Sent Back to Senate.

Friends of the state administration will probably make a desperate fight before the house judicial appointment committee tonight for a favorable report on the bill which passed the senate last week. Failure to push through this bill, drafting of a new bill to be checked up to the senate will doubtless be urged.

With a majority of the members of the house committee apparently unfriendly to the senate bill, it is generally believed that the committee will vote to kill the bill. But a judicial appointment is one of the top line measures in the state administration program. Failure to pass some sort of judicial appointment act after a bill has gone through the Democratic senate will clearly put the administration in a hole. For that reason, all possible influence will doubtless be brought to bear upon the committee which will tonight consider the senate bill.

In the senate last Saturday, the judicial appointment bill was recommended, considered and passed in something less than two hours. Immediately, a strong and persistent lobby started to Topeka. This lobby came from every section of the state and from the homes of the members of the legislature. Not only did the district judges come in person to protest against being legislated out of a job or having new territory annexed to their districts, but they brought with them their lawyer friends and not infrequently expressions from their constituents.

So the house committee met and looked over the senate bill. There was a move in the lobby to send the bill to the senate without the votes of the committee. But administration followers protested. As a result the committee adjourned to meet tonight.

Lobby Has Been Busy.

In the meantime both the administration and the lobby have been busy. The lobby has been creating a most genuinely unkind feeling toward the senate bill. On the other hand, the administration has been working over provisions of a substitute bill.

This is today the program of the administration in the house. They propose, if possible, to crowd through the committee a bill that will receive a respectful hearing on the floor. Then, with the influence of a caucus, it is hoped to whip into line enough members to pass the bill. That will check the house bill up to the senate for action in the closing hours of the session.

There is admittedly no hope that the bill will become a law. But the move is good politics. It will help the Republican house out of a most delicate situation. That body will not be forced to defeat the senate bill in the committee or on the floor. With soft words to the effect that a substitute bill cannot become a law at this session, it is hoped to pass the substitute—if the committee will stand for it.

Two years ago the Republicans in the house helped the Democrats pass a judicial appointment bill which was duly killed in the senate. This year the senate checked the matter back to the house. Now the question has become a fight of the house and senate strategy boards. Neither the house nor senate members expect a judicial appointment at this session. But the proposition was recommended in the governor's message and is an administration pledge. So there you are.

And yet, there is just that possibility that the senate might call the house bluff—assuming that the substitute should be recommended tonight—and pass the house bill.

Saw Two Ships Sunk.

American Captain Witnessed Attack by German Submarines.

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MILDEST ON RECORD.

Conditions in Kansas in February Favorable to Wheat.

February, 1915, was the mildest February on record in Kansas and with two exceptions the wettest, according to a summary of the reports of 120 stations of the weather bureau which completely cover the state.

Temperatures were above normal almost continually and there was rain or snow on more days than in any previous February. It was also a record breaker for excessive cloudiness and was the first February with no temperature lower than 2 degrees above zero, which Kansas has experienced in the 28 years a state-wide weather record has been kept.

Temperatures in Month.

The average temperature of the month was 38 degrees or 7 degrees above normal. There was a remarkable uniformity in temperatures. They were above normal almost throughout the month with no unusually warm days and no cold waves. The highest reported was 81 degrees on the 10th at Liberal and Hugoton; the lowest, 2 degrees above zero on the 2nd at Blakely and Hering.

Rain and Snow.

There was more precipitation this month than in the three previous months—November, December and January combined. The average for the month was 2.66 inches; the middle third, 2.64 inches; the western third, 1.56 inches; and for the entire state, 2.72 inches, with a 1.53 inch average normal.

Weather Favorable to Wheat.

The uniformly mild weather and excessive moisture were exceptionally favorable for winter wheat, which was in the condition of being ready to strike out the section affecting direct heirs. Other amendments cut down the proposed operation of the law. The bill was defeated by a vote of 18 to 14 in the senate. The bill was defeated by a vote of 18 to 14 in the senate.

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NO INHERITANCE TAX.

Administration Failed to Pass Bill for Revenue in State.

Attempt of the administration to return to the statute books a graduated inheritance tax law was defeated by a vote of 18 to 14 in the senate. The bill was defeated by a vote of 18 to 14 in the senate.

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TODAY'S MARKET REPORT.

Chicago, March 5.—WHEAT—Active buying on the part of cash houses rallied the wheat market today after a sharp break due to lower prices at Liverpool. It was a matter of the course of when it opened 1/4¢ off to a shade up, but then hardened a little but later under a bearish influence. Opening prices, which ranged from 3/4¢ decline to 3/4¢ advance were followed by a moderate rise all around and then a series of nervous reactions.

At one time the new crop delivery went to the lowest figure set on the crop. The close was unsettled at the same as last night to 1/4¢ down.

CORN—Rough weather that promised to lessen receipts gave comparative strength to corn. The market though felt the unsettling effect of the course of wheat. At one time it opened 1/4¢ off to a shade up, but then hardened a little but later under a bearish influence. Opening prices, which ranged from 3/4¢ decline to 3/4¢ advance were followed by a moderate rise all around and then a series of nervous reactions.

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